

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated March 16, 2007. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to highlight that the electrical connections between the printer and the cartridge are aligned with the longitudinal extent of the cartridge so that the contact force between these electrical connections puts a longitudinally compressive force on the cartridge when it is installed in the printer. This configuration is best seen in Figure 6.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

Non-statutory Double Patenting

Claims 1 to 4 stand rejected as patentably indistinct from the claims of USSN 10/760,254 in view of US 6,428,145 to Feinn et al.

In light of the amendments to claims 1 and 4, we submit that the claims of the present application are clearly distinguished from the claims of co-pending '254. The present claims are restricted to printer cartridges that have an electrical connection of the type that impart a compressive force on the cartridge when it is installed in the printer. The '254 claims do not place any such restrictions on the scope of the invention it defines. Likewise, the printer cartridge of Feinn is not under a compressive force from the electrical contacts on the printer. If the electrical connector is a snug pin socket, the application of force to all sides leaves not resultant force to act upon the cartridge.

Accordingly, claims 1 to 4 of the present invention are clearly distinguished from those of the '254.

35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 1 to 4

Claims 1 to 4 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,428,145 to Feinn et al.

Amended claims 1 and 4 define that the electrical connection with the printer creates a longitudinally compressive force on the printer cartridge. The Feinn printhead clearly has its power and data contacts located on its sides rather than its ends. The pin connections 62 near the ends of the printhead are not arranged to impart a longitudinally compressive force on the printer cartridge. Feinn discloses that it does form an electrical connection with the pins 52 but nothing regarding the nature of this connection. If it is an interference fit socket, then any forces that happen to act parallel to the longitudinal extent of the nozzle array will be balanced by opposing forces on the other side of the socket. There is no resultant force on the inkjet printhead assembly.

By positioning the electrical contacts at an end of the pagewidth printhead, the force needed to maintain the electrical connection is directed down the longitudinal axis of the printhead.

Placing the contacts on the side of the printhead would direct the contact force laterally and tend to bow and deflect the printhead. The structural rigidity needed to keep deflection to an acceptable minimum requires the printhead to have a certain thickness and or the use of stiffer materials. This adds to the overall size and cost of the printer.

In light of the above, the cited reference does not disclose a printer cartridge with all the elements of amended claims 1 or 4. Therefore, Feinn fails to anticipate the invention defined by any of claims 1 to 4.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection has been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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